

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Plastic container of styrene and/or polyolefins for the packaging and long-term storage of food products the container comprising, to reduce the amount of oxygen penetrating the plastic container in a closed portion thereof, a coating that hinders the diffusion of oxygen, wherein the exterior and/or interior surfaces of the container are coated with the coating with oxygen barrier properties, and ~~material of~~ the coating being of a material largely compatible to material of the container and ~~possibly~~ to the contents of the container with respect to properties of the coating selected from mechanical strength, thermal expansion, and chemical resistance, wherein the coating material is based on modern epoxy resins or amine adducts, and wherein the coating has a thickness of 0.003 to 0.03 μ m.

2. (Previously presented) Plastic container in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the coating is applied by spray coating and/or dip coating only the outer surface or the entire freely accessible surface of the plastic container in one operation.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) Plastic container in accordance with Claim 1, wherein, after it has been applied to the container surface, the coating is subjected to an aftertreatment that consists, for example, of heating or UV irradiation for the purpose of drying it or curing it.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) Plastic container in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the container surface to be coated is pretreated by flame treating, before it is coated and is then, ~~for example,~~ fat-free and/or dust-free and/or roughened.